

closing, Senator Withem?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I do, Madam Chair. First of all I'd like to say I'm pleased that we did not call the question. I think what Senator Lamb had to say is...needed to be heard because this should not be something that we automatically do on every piece of legislation, legislate chaos and then hope something good will come out of that and I don't believe it ought to be tried on everything. I have a couple of notes from the lobby here regarding that this is a judicial district bill, not a school district bill, that maybe I'm confused here on the subject matter. I do think though that by and large this Legislature since I've been here has been a problem solving body, a body that sees problems in our state and tries to solve them. Now not everybody may agree with the solutions we put forward. As a matter of fact some of our solution some time may not be good policy, they may make a lot of people mad, but we want to solve problems. When we see something that isn't working as well as it should, we like to solve that problem. Particularly in this area where we may be spending more on our judicial system than we need to. I think it makes sense to solve the problem rather than just trying to add onto it, add onto the problem. However, inertia is a tremendous enemy of ours, that we have some creative individuals in here that propose solutions and those individuals that have a vested interest in preserving the status quo will always come back and they'll say, yes, we know there's a problem; yes, we want to work with you to find a solution, but, no, your solution isn't quite right. Give us some time and we'll come back with a solution. And what I heard of the history of this one, as Senator Beutler went over this morning, the history of let us come back with a solution has not, hasn't worked, that each time that there is go...this is not a good idea, let us come up with something better, that something better never comes up. In cases like that where we've been trying to deal with problems for, maybe not generations in this case as some of the others have been, but for a considerable length of time, maybe we as a Legislature need to send a message, that, okay, we'll accept the fact that you won't buy onto the Beutler solution, you won't buy onto the Lindsay solution, you won't buy onto say anything else that is being proposed now, but we're serious. We want to see this situation resolved. I find it frustrating in here, and when we're talking about taxpayers' money we can all make very good generalized speeches about how wonderful it is to save taxpayers' money, how terrible it is to spend taxpayers' money,